



General Assembly

Distr.: General
20 July 2001

Original: English

Fifty-sixth session

Item 131 (a) of the provisional agenda*

**Human rights questions: implementation of
human rights instruments**

Status of the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

Report of the Secretary-General**

Contents

	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Page</i>
I. Mandate of the Fund	1	3
II. Administration and Board of Trustees	2-3	3
III. Beneficiaries	4	3
IV. Grant cycle	5	3
V. Payment of contributions	6	3
VI. Sixth session of the Board of Trustees	7-17	4
VII. Approval and implementation of recommendations	18-19	6
VIII. Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery	20-28	6
IX. Needs assessment	29	8
X. Recommendations of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery	30-32	9

* A/56/150.

** The present report is being submitted on 20 July 2001 so as to include as much up-to-date information as possible concerning the recent session and recommendations of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, held in Geneva from 11 to 15 June 2001.



XI.	Fund-raising for the seventh session of the Board of Trustees.....	32-36	10
XII.	How to contribute to the Fund.....	37-38	10
Annex			
	United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery: criteria, practices and guidelines.....		12

I. Mandate of the Fund

1. In its resolution 46/122 of 17 December 1991, the General Assembly established the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery with the purpose of receiving voluntary contributions from Governments, non-governmental organizations, other private or public entities and individuals and providing financial assistance to representatives of non-governmental organizations from different regions that deal with issues of contemporary forms of slavery to participate in the deliberations of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, as well as extending humanitarian, legal and financial aid, through established channels of assistance, to individuals whose human rights have been violated as a result of contemporary forms of slavery. The present report on the financial status and activities of the Fund includes information on the participation of beneficiaries of grants from the Fund in the twenty-sixth session of the Working Group, held in Geneva from 11 to 15 June 2001, and on the consideration by the Working Group of its relevant agenda item on the Fund.

II. Administration and Board of Trustees

2. Pursuant to resolution 46/122, the Fund is administered in accordance with the relevant financial rules and regulations of the United Nations on general trust funds for humanitarian assistance, by the Secretary-General, through the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, with the advice of a Board of Trustees.

3. The Board is composed of five United Nations experts with relevant experience in the field of human rights and, in particular, with issues of contemporary forms of slavery, serving in their personal capacities. The current members of the Board, appointed by the Secretary-General for a three-year renewable term, in consultation with the Chairman of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, with due regard to equitable geographical distribution are: Swami Agnivesh (Chairman), Theo van Boven, Cheikh Saad-Bouh Kamara, Tatiana Matveeva and José de Souza Martins.

III. Beneficiaries

4. In accordance with the selection criteria adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 46/122 (see also the annex to the present report on criteria, practices and guidelines), the beneficiaries of assistance from the Fund shall be representatives of non-governmental organizations dealing with issues of contemporary forms of slavery who would not, in the opinion of the Board, be able to attend the session of the Working Group without the assistance provided by the Fund and who would be able to contribute to a deeper knowledge on the part of the Working Group of the problems relating to contemporary forms of slavery, and individuals whose human rights have been severely violated as a result of contemporary forms of slavery.

IV. Grant cycle

5. Applications for travel and for project grants for 2002 must be submitted by 15 September 2001 for analysis by the secretariat of the Fund and Board (for contact details, see paras. 36 and 37 below). Admissible applications will be examined by the Board at its next session, scheduled to be held from 21 to 25 January 2002. At that session, the Board will adopt recommendations for grants, which will then be submitted for approval to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on behalf of the Secretary-General. The grants approved should be paid in February/March 2002. Beneficiaries of project grants have then to provide satisfactory narrative and financial reports on the use of their grants before 1 November 2002. Until satisfactory reports on the use of previous grants are received, no new project grant can be paid.

V. Payment of contributions

6. In order to meet the requirements of the above-mentioned grant cycle and to meet new requests for financing during a current year, new voluntary contributions should be paid to the Fund by the end of November in order to be duly recorded by the United Nations Treasurer well in advance of the annual session of the Board. Contributions that cannot be recorded before the session of the Board will be considered by it at its next annual session.

VI. Sixth session of the Board of Trustees

7. The Board of Trustees met in Geneva from 22 to 26 January 2001. The Board needed 10 meetings (as compared with 8 in 2000) to examine all the information prepared by its secretariat concerning the use of grants paid in 1999 and 2000; applications for new travel and project grants; the financial situation of the Fund, including new contributions paid by Governments, non-governmental organizations and individuals; the implementation by the secretariat of the Board and Fund of the recommendations approved in 2000; and the revised application forms for travel and project grants for 2002. The Board met with the Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights, representatives of donors Governments, non-governmental organizations and individuals, including students of the Istituto Tecnico Commerciale Oscar Romero (Albino, Italy) who became regular donors to the Fund. The Board also met with staff members of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights servicing the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, programmes on trafficking and children in armed conflict and the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa, in August 2001. The Board held an informal meeting with members of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to exchange information on the mandate and practice of the two expert organs. Hearings were also organized with representatives of the following international non-governmental organizations: Anti-Slavery International, NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child and International Catholic Child Bureau (BICE).

8. The Board expressed satisfaction with the documentation prepared for its sixth session, in particular the information on the use of previous grants paid in 1999 and 2000 and on applications for new travel and project grants.

9. The Board reviewed narrative and financial reports on four project grants awarded in 1999. It recommended the closure of three project files as the reports submitted were found to be satisfactory. The Board also reviewed narrative and financial reports on the use of the 17 project grants awarded in 2000. It decided to close three project files and recommended

that its secretariat continue to follow up on the other projects.

10. According to information available in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the amount available for grants at the sixth session of the Board was approximately \$285,000, which included new contributions received (see table 1).

11. At its sixth session, the Board examined 33 new admissible applications for travel grants to attend the twenty-sixth session of the Working Group, amounting to approximately \$73,000, and 23 applications for project grants, amounting to approximately \$330,000.

12. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 46/122 and other approved selection criteria (see annex I), the Board's recommendations focused on assisting representatives of non-governmental organizations from different regions dealing with issues of contemporary forms of slavery to participate in the deliberations of the 26th session of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, held from 11 to 15 June 2001, as well as on extending, through established channels of assistance, humanitarian, legal and financial aid to individuals whose human rights had been severely violated as a result of contemporary forms of slavery. The Board noted that the Working Group had decided at its twenty-fifth session¹ to examine as a matter of priority, at its twenty-sixth session, in 2001, the issue of trafficking in persons, with the active participation of non-governmental organizations and victims of trafficking, in preparation for the proposed United Nations year against trafficking in persons. The Board also noted that the Group had decided to keep under consideration at its twenty-sixth session the question of debt bondage, the role of corruption in the perpetuation of slavery and slavery-like practices, problems affecting migrant workers, the protection of child labourers, forced labour, trafficking in human organs and issues, forced marriages, ways to combat sexual abuse of children inside the family and the urgent need for adequate help to be offered to victims of such practices.

13. On the basis of the recommendations made by the Board, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights approved \$25,715 for 13 travel grants and \$148,700 for 18 project grants, for a total amount of \$174,415. Those project and travel grants will assist non-governmental organizations in 15 countries in

Table 1
Contributions available at the sixth session of the Board
 (United States dollars)

<i>State</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Place of payment</i>	<i>Date of payment</i>	<i>Contribution number</i>
Bahrain	3 000	Geneva	24 October 2000	1st
Brazil	10 000	Geneva	22 December 2000	1st
Cyprus	4 000	Geneva	8 December 2000	2nd
Japan	50 000	New York	9 June 2000	3rd
Netherlands	38 464	Geneva	13 December 2000	3rd
Poland	5 000	Geneva	24 October 2000	2nd
South Africa	9 550	Geneva	3 April 2000	3rd
Subtotal	120 014			
<i>Non-governmental organizations and individuals</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Place of payment</i>	<i>Date of payment</i>	<i>Contribution number</i>
Students of the Archway School	1 020	Geneva	23 June 2000	1st
Students of the Istituto Tecnico Commerciale Oscar Romero	459	Geneva	21 December 2000	4th
Kansai Electric Power Dispute Committee	1 840	Geneva	9 August 2000	3rd
Japanese Workers Committee for Human Rights	1 840	Geneva	26 September 2000	
Lullin Kelemen	150	Geneva	26 October 2000	1st
Daniel Prémont	120	Geneva	13 April 2000	1st
Aldo and Giovanna Salvadori	7 184	Geneva	30 August 2000	1st
Hisae Saito/League Demanding State Compensation for the Victims of the Public Order Maintenance Law	305	Geneva	14 August 2000	1st
Yorio Shiokawa	299	Geneva	12 September 2000	3rd
Valeria Spinelli Catani	172	Geneva	4 August 2000	1st
Halima Warzazi	500	Geneva	10 July 2000	2nd
Subtotal	13 889			
Total	113 903			

Africa, America, Asia and Europe. The list of beneficiaries appears in the report of the Secretary-General to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-seventh session.² The list of travel grants approved indicates the names of the representatives and of their organization and the theme to be presented at the Working Group. The list of project grants gives the titles of the projects or aspects covered, the names of the organizations and the amounts of the grants.

14. The High Commissioner approved the recommendation that members of the Board or the secretariat of the Fund visit projects in order to better evaluate the work planned and carried out. A provisional amount of \$32,000 has been allocated for that purpose.

15. In accordance with United Nations rules governing general trust funds for humanitarian assistance, 13 per cent of estimated annual expenditures in 2001 were set aside for programme support costs related to the servicing of the Fund and 15 per cent of estimated annual expenditures were set aside as a reserve for 2002. The balance available for the seventh session for the Board, in January 2002, is approximately \$20,000.

16. The Board recommended that a new fact sheet or brochure on the activities of the Fund be prepared, for information and fund-raising purposes, in a sufficient number of copies for wide dissemination to non-governmental organizations and donors, and that Fact Sheet No. 14 on contemporary forms of slavery should be revised to include a chapter on the activities of the Fund and Board.

17. The Board recommended that issues of contemporary forms of slavery receive due attention in the preparatory process leading to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and that information on the Fund should be prepared in that respect.

VII. Approval and implementation of recommendations

18. All the recommendations made by the Board of Trustees at its sixth session were approved on 30 January 2001 by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on behalf of the

Secretary-General. The recommendations adopted are available in the report of the Secretary-General on the Fund to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-seventh session under the agenda item entitled "Specific groups and individuals, other vulnerable groups and individuals".³ At the time of the drafting of the present report, almost all project and travel grants had been paid. A few were kept pending until receipt of additional information requested from the applicants by the Board.

19. The Board noted with satisfaction that, thanks to new contributions from regular and new donors, fund-raising initiatives by the High Commissioner, the Board and the Fund's secretariat, as well as the increase in the number of new applications, it has been able to recommend more grants than in previous years. Table 2 shows the increase.

Table 2
Grants approved, 1997-2001

(United States dollars)

Year	Grants
1997	28 850
1998	— ^a
1999	40 505
2000	114 300
2001	174 415

^a No new contribution.

VIII. Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

20. For its consideration of the situation of the Fund, the Working Group had before it the reports of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly (A/55/204) and to the Commission on Human Rights.⁴

21. In her opening statement, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights paid tribute to the non-governmental organizations for their dedication in supporting the activities of the Working Group and their fight for the protection and promotion of human rights. Their presence each year at the sessions of the Working Group was an important contribution to the meetings. She noted the close cooperation existing between the Board and the Group. By identifying in advance priority issues to be

discussed at its session, the Working Group helped the Board to make recommendations on the applications received in an informed and effective way. She had heard about Anita Khadka, who had come to Geneva three years ago to inform the members of the Working Group of the violence and abuses she had been exposed to. The young girl had been kidnapped at the age of 11, sold to a brothel in another country, forced into prostitution, beaten and infected with HIV/AIDS. Such testimonies were more striking and powerful than any statistics on the issue. They gave a name and face to trafficking in children. The High Commissioner was pleased with the presence and participation of community-based organizations and former victims, who gave to the Working Group a dynamism in its work, reliable information and a profound and important human dimension.

22. As no Board member was able to attend the twenty-sixth session at his or her own expense in 2001, the Working Group asked the secretariat of the Board and Fund to introduce briefly the documentation available, the beneficiaries of travel grants attending the session and the financial situation of the Fund.

23. The recommendations adopted by the Board at its sixth session, in conformity with the mandate of the Fund, aimed at providing financial assistance to representatives of local non-governmental organizations dealing with issues of contemporary forms of slavery and individuals whose human rights had been severely violated as a result of contemporary forms of slavery in order to enable them to attend the session. According to the selection criteria approved by the General Assembly and the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, the beneficiaries had to come from different regions, would not have been able to attend the session of the Working Group without the assistance provided by the Fund and would be able to contribute to a deeper knowledge on the part of the Working Group of the problems relating to contemporary forms of slavery. They were provided with airline tickets and a daily subsistence allowance to enable them to participate for three days in the deliberations of the Working Group. The Board took into consideration in particular that the Working Group had decided at its twenty-fifth session to examine as a matter of priority at its twenty-sixth session the issue of trafficking in persons, with the active participation of non-governmental organizations and victims of trafficking, in preparation for the proposed United

Nations year against trafficking in persons. The Board also took into consideration in its selection process that the Group had also decided to consider at its twenty-sixth session the question of debt bondage, the role of corruption in the perpetuation of slavery and slavery-like practices, problems affecting migrant workers, the protection of child labourers, forced labour, trafficking in human organs and issues, forced marriages, ways to combat sexual abuse of children and the need for adequate assistance to be provided to victims of such practices.

24. The travel grants were released before the twenty-sixth session of the Working Group. The following representatives of non-governmental organizations participated in the deliberations of the Working Group: Ana Salvado (on behalf of Casa Alianza-Covenant House Latin America, Costa Rica, on the situation in Central America of victims of sex tourism and action taken as a result of the visit to Guatemala of the Special Rapporteur on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography on the sale of children and illegal trafficking in babies); Manimala Sinha (on behalf of Jan Kala Sahitya Manch Sanstha, an action group for education, health, development and social mobilization, in Jaipur, India, on activities to rescue and rehabilitate girl children from sex trafficking); Esohe Aghatise (on behalf of Associazione Iroko, in Turin, Italy, on cultural, social and psychological aspects of the trafficking in Nigerian girls for prostitution); Pramod Kaphley (on behalf of the Group for International Solidarity, in Kathmandu, on solutions to bonded labour); Ek Raj Chaudhary (on behalf of Backward Society Education, in Dang, Nepal, who gave testimony as a former bonded labourer and on measures taken to abolish bonded labour), Mary Soledad Perpignan and Lolly Untalan (on behalf of the Third World Movement against the Exploitation of Women, in Quezon City, the Philippines, who replaced the three selected candidates, who could not attend, and reported on assistance to victims of sex trade and presented testimonies of victims of sex trafficking for prostitution on board ships and in slum areas); and Akoko Victoire Lawson (on behalf of the BICE branch in Togo, who spoke on activities in support of street porters).

25. The Working Group welcomed the testimonies and presentations made by the representatives of local organizations, who contributed to a deeper knowledge

on the part of the Working Group of the problems relating to contemporary forms of slavery.

26. The secretariat of the Fund indicated that new contributions had already been paid by Brazil (\$10,000), Burkina Faso (\$1,369), the Holy See (\$1,000), Karen Parker, on behalf of the Association of Human Rights Lawyers (\$500) and the school children and teachers of the Istituto Tecnico Commerciale Oscar Romero in Albino, Italy (\$596). During the twenty-sixth session of the Working Group, a cheque for £2,000 was formally given to the Fund on behalf of pupils of the Archway School, Stroud, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as part of a programme called Schools Together and Action for Children Campaign (STACC). It was underlined that British and Italian students, associations and individuals had become regular donors, confirming the growing popular support for the Fund.

27. However, the attention of the Working Group and Governments represented was drawn by different participants to the recommendation of the Board according to which the Fund would need \$400,000 in new contributions before the end of the year 2001 in order for the Fund and Board to be able to recommend to the Secretary-General a sufficient number of new grants in 2002.

28. In a statement made at the twenty-sixth session, Bob Willey, a teacher at the Archway School in Stroud and coordinator of STACC, an organization in the United Kingdom seeking to unite schools and their students in activities that focus on development and human rights issues, said that students from the school and project had attended sessions of the Working Group since 1998. According to him, the students, when made aware of injustice, wished to bring about change and improvement as quickly as possible and it was the United Nations Fund that gave them the best opportunity to channel that energy. He also underlined that in 1998 the Fund had brought to Geneva a witness from Nepal, Anita Khadka, who had delivered a most powerful statement about her kidnapping, torture and enslavement as a prostitute from the age of 11. That personal statement from a 16-year-old girl had had a great effect on all those present. Sitting opposite her were two students from the Archway School, one girl aged 15 and the other 17. The former Chairperson of the Working Group, Halima Warzazi, had suggested to the young British students present that they help Ms. Kadka and other young girls assisted by Maiti-

Nepal, the association that was caring for her. Consequently, they had arranged to receive from Maiti-Nepal products made by girls there and had been able, through schools, to sell them and return \$1,500 to Maiti-Nepal. It was obvious to the students, however, that it was the presence of witnesses financed by the United Nations Fund that had touched and encouraged them to become involved in helping victims and the Working Group. In 2000, they had made a donation of \$1,020 to the Fund.⁵ According to his statement, the students felt embarrassed to note that their Government had made no contribution in recent years, unlike other Governments of the European Union. In 2001, they had been able to more than double their contribution to the Fund (£2,000). In that way they hoped to strengthen the Fund's ability to bring witnesses to denounce more issues of contemporary forms of slavery and, by their personal pressure and testimony, to encourage all Governments to act to eradicate such crimes. The Archway School was named after a memorial arch, erected privately in 1834 to mark the abolition of slavery in the British Empire. It had since been discovered that the arch was the only memorial in the United Kingdom to the abolition of slavery and plans were now well advanced for its restoration. With the help of STACC, the Stroud District Council, the local authority, had been given a national grant of £10,920 towards the cost of restoration. As part of the agreement for receiving that money the Council must demonstrate "a community involvement" in the issue of the arch. Part of that involvement would be the production by STACC students of an information leaflet on the history of the arch. The Council had also accepted the need for the issue of contemporary forms of slavery to be included in the leaflet. In addition there were plans for a street drama presentation on the issue of slavery and STACC students would take part, both in the writing and the performance.

IX. Needs assessment

29. Applications for grants received in 2001 amounted to about \$400,000. In the Board's view, in order to be able to satisfy all new applications envisaged for 2002 and to fulfil its mandate satisfactorily, the Fund would need \$400,000 more before the seventh session of the Board, scheduled to be held during the last week of January 2001.

X. Recommendations of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

30. In its resolution 2000/12 on the Fund, the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights had noted with satisfaction the participation of a growing number of representatives of non-governmental organizations financed by the Fund and their valuable contribution to the work of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery at its twenty-fifth session, and encouraged their activities; expressed its appreciation to the donor Governments, non-governmental organizations and individuals — in particular new donors — for their valuable contributions, and urged all Governments, non-governmental organizations, other private or public entities and individuals to contribute annually in order to enable the Fund to fulfil its mandate effectively; emphasized the need for voluntary contributions to the Fund to be paid on a regular basis and, if possible, before the end of the current year, in order to enable the Board to recommend grants to assist representatives of organizations to participate in the deliberations of the Working Group at its twenty-sixth session and finance projects of humanitarian assistance by non-governmental organizations in the field; encouraged the Board to finance non-governmental organizations from all the geographical regions in order to provide the widest possible view of contemporary forms of slavery in the world; invited the members of the Board in a position to do so to attend the twenty-sixth session of the Working Group and decided to continue to examine the situation and activities of the Fund at its fifty-third session, in 2001.

31. At its twenty-sixth session, the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery recalled the close relationship between its mandate and activities and those of the Board and the necessary cooperation between them; expressed its gratitude to Governments, organizations, trade unions and individuals, including young students, who had contributed to the Fund and encouraged them to continue doing so; expressed its appreciation for the participation of eight representatives of non-governmental organizations financed by the Fund, including victims of contemporary forms of slavery, and for their valuable

contribution to its work; invited the Board to promote the participation at the annual sessions of the Working Group of individuals and organizations from as large a number of countries as possible, in accordance with the priorities established in its agenda; expressed its support for the work of the members of the Board, in particular their fund-raising activities; recalled the appeal made by the General Assembly in its resolution 46/122 to all Governments to respond favourably to requests for contributions to the Fund, urged them and non-governmental organizations, other private or public entities and individuals to contribute to the Fund and encouraged them to do so in order to enable the Fund to fulfil its mandate effectively in 2002; and decided to continue to examine the situation and the activities of the Fund at its twenty-seventh session.

32. In its resolution 2001/19, adopted on 16 August 2001 at its fifty-third session, the Subcommission expressed its gratitude to Governments, organizations, trade unions and individuals, including young students, who had contributed to the Fund and encouraged them to continue doing so; expressed its appreciation for the participation at the twenty-sixth session of the Working Group of eight representatives of non-governmental organizations financed by the Fund, including victims of contemporary forms of slavery, and for their valuable contribution to the work of the Working Group; invited the Board to promote the participation at the annual sessions of the Working Group of individuals and organizations from as large a number of countries as possible, in accordance with the priorities established in the agenda of the Working Group; noted with satisfaction that 18 project grants had been paid by the Fund to local non-governmental organizations that worked on issues of contemporary forms of slavery; expressed its support for the work of the Board members, in particular their fund-raising activities; recalled the appeal made by the General Assembly in its resolution 46/122 to all Governments to respond favourably to requests for contributions, and urged them and non-governmental organizations, other private or public entities and individuals to contribute, in order to enable the Fund to fulfil its mandate effectively in the year 2002; and decided to continue to examine the situation and the activities of the Fund at its fifty-fourth session.

XI. Fund-raising for the seventh session of the Board of Trustees

33. At its sixth session, the members of the Board of Trustees thanked the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights for having sent in October 2000 a letter appealing for new contributions to assist them in their fund-raising efforts. The Board recommended that the High Commissioner send a new letter of appeal to donors for additional contributions, to be paid, if possible, by the end of November 2001, to allow the Board to be able to recommend a sufficient number of grants at its seventh session, in January 2002. The High Commissioner approved that recommendation.

34. The Board also recommended at its sixth session that the Commission on Human Rights continue to give an opportunity to the Chairman or another member of the Board to deliver a brief speech under the relevant agenda item of the annual session of the Commission in order to introduce the report of the Secretary-General on the Fund to the Commission and to inform the Commission about its work and the financial situation of the Fund and the activities of the Board.

35. In accordance with their mandate, the Board members continued to develop initiatives to make the activities of the Fund and Board better known and to obtain new contributions by, inter alia, widening the donor base and obtaining the support of young persons, the non-governmental organizations concerned and the public at large.

36. The Board encouraged interested donors not to make pledges, which cannot be taken into consideration by the Board when allocating grants, but to pay their voluntary contributions directly to the Fund, well in advance of the session and preferably before the end of November 2001.

XII. How to contribute to the Fund

37. Voluntary contributions to the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery may be made:

(a) By bank transfer to the United Nations Geneva General Fund:

(i) In United States dollars:

UBS AG
P. O. Box 2770
CH-1211 Geneva 2
Switzerland

Account number: 240-C-590-160.1
Swift address: UBSWCHZH12A

(ii) In other currencies:

UBS AG
P. O. Box 2770
CH-1211 Geneva 2
Switzerland

Account number: 240-C-590-160.0
Swift address: UBSWCHZH12A

(b) By cheque to the order of the United Nations:

The Treasurer
United Nations Office at Geneva
Palais de Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland

Donors should indicate "For the Slavery Fund, account SH" on any payment order.

38. To enable the Secretariat to follow up and inform the Board of Trustees, the General Assembly, the Commission on Human Rights, the Subcommission and Working Group, donors wishing to make a voluntary contribution are invited to inform the Fund's secretariat of their payment at:

Trust Funds Unit
Support Service Branch
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner
for Human Rights
United Nations
CH-1211 Geneva 10
Switzerland
Telephone: + (41) (22) 917 91 64
+ (41) (22) 917 92 66
Facsimile: + (41) (22) 917 90 17

A copy of the bank transfer order or cheque would be useful.

Notes

¹ See E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/23, sect. VI.B, recommendation 4.

² See E/CN.4/2001/82/Add.1, annexes III and IV.

³ E/CN.4/2001/82/Add.1

⁴ E/CN.4/2001/82, on the fifth session of the Board, and E/CN.4/2001/82/Add.1, on its sixth session.

⁵ See E/CN.4/2001/82/Add.1, annex I.

Annex

United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery: criteria, practices and guidelines

I. Beneficiaries from the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

1. According to the criteria established by the General Assembly in its resolution 46/122 of 17 December 1991, the only beneficiaries from the United Nations Voluntary Trust Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery shall be:

(a) Representatives from non-governmental organizations from different regions dealing with issues of contemporary forms of slavery wishing to participate in the deliberations of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery:

(i) Who are so considered by the Board of Trustees;

(ii) Who would not, in the opinion of the Board, be able to attend the session of the Working Group without the assistance provided by the Fund;

(iii) Who would be able to contribute to a deeper knowledge on the part of the Working Group of the problems relating to contemporary forms of slavery;

(b) Individuals whose human rights have been severely violated as a result of contemporary forms of slavery and who are so considered by the Board.

(c) Non-governmental organizations can apply for a maximum of two representatives;

(d) Gender balance should be taken into consideration when selecting representatives;

(e) The applicant must understand and speak English or French or Spanish;

(f) The applicant must submit by airmail the original of the application duly signed and dated;

(g) Applications should be encouraged from "all the geographical regions in order to provide the widest possible view of contemporary forms of slavery in the world", in accordance with resolution 2000/12 of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights;

(h) The organization should provide information on its legal status, year of foundation, aspects of contemporary forms of slavery that it deals with, specific experience and/or expertise in the relevant issues to be discussed at the Working Group, annual budget and other sources of funding;

(i) The organization should provide information on the responsibility of the applicant in the organization and on the theme of his or her presentation to the Working Group;

(j) The Board will not consider applications for which its secretariat has not received satisfactory information after a second reminder.

II. Travel grants

2. The Board has developed the following practices and guidelines:

(a) Application forms for travel grants should include a letter of nomination and recommendation signed by an executive official or body of the applicant's organization;

(b) The Board will take into consideration the main theme as well as other priority areas identified by the Working Group for its annual session;

III. Project grants

3. According to the criteria established by the General Assembly in its resolution 46/122, grants from the Fund shall be given to extend, through established channels of assistance, humanitarian, legal and financial aid to individuals whose human rights have been severely violated as a result of contemporary forms of slavery.

4. In addition, the Board has developed the following practices and guidelines:

(a) A maximum of 15,000 United States dollars can be requested from the Fund for a project grant;

(b) As a rule, project grants should be allocated for direct assistance to the victims and local non-governmental organizations. Grants may be channelled by international non-governmental organizations, provided that they do not keep any part of the grant for their own activities;

(c) Gender balance should be taken into consideration;

(d) Applications should be encouraged from "all the geographical regions in order to provide the widest possible view of contemporary forms of slavery in the world", in accordance with Subcommission resolution 2000/12;

(e) Non-governmental organizations must submit by airmail the original of the application duly signed and dated;

(f) The organization should provide information on its present activities and aspects of contemporary forms of slavery that it deals with;

(g) If satisfactory narrative and financial reports on the use of a previous grant have not been received, a new grant cannot be released and should be kept pending;

(h) The Board will not consider applications for which its secretariat has not received satisfactory information after a second reminder;

(i) Project leaders should accept that the Board or a staff member may visit their projects for a better evaluation of the work planned and carried out.

7. Reporting on the use of voluntary contributions for travel grant and project grants consist of the reports of the Secretary-General on the Fund to the General Assembly and to the Commission on Human Rights, as well as the annual meeting of the Board with donors and interested Governments and the annual meeting organized for donors by the secretariat of the Fund at the end of each year, at which all relevant reports and documents on the activities of the Fund are distributed and discussed.^a

Notes

^a See E/CN.4/2001/82, para. 20.

IV. Guidelines relating to voluntary contributions and reporting

5. Only voluntary contributions paid and duly registered by the United Nations Treasurer before the first day of its session are taken into consideration by the Board for recommending travel or project grants to the Secretary-General. Pledges are not taken into consideration for the allocation of grants.

6. Voluntary contributions to the Fund cannot be earmarked to specific travel or project grants.



General Assembly

Distr.: General
24 July 2001

Original: English

Fifty-sixth session

Item 128 of the provisional agenda*

Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Implementation of the programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Report of the Secretary-General**

1. In its resolution 55/80 of 4 December 2000, the General Assembly requested the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to submit, through the Secretary-General, a report on the implementation of the programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People to the Assembly at its fifty-sixth session. The present report contains a summary of the activities relating to indigenous peoples undertaken by the Office of the High Commissioner since the autumn of 2000 until the end of June 2001.

Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights on a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous people

2. The sixth session of the Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights to discuss a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous people was held at Geneva from 20 November to 1 December 2000. There was discussion on the different aspects of the process followed by a general debate on substantive aspects of the draft declaration, in particular on self-determination, land rights and natural resources. The Working Group considered articles 1, 2, 12, 14, 44 and 45 in informal meetings during the session. No new articles of the draft declaration were adopted at first reading. The report of the Working Group is contained in document E/CN.4/2001/85, and amendments proposed by Governments for future discussion appear in annex I to the report.

* A/56/150.

** In accordance with General Assembly resolution 55/222, section III, paragraph 10, this report is being submitted on 10 July 2001 so as to include as much updated information as possible.



Workshop on Indigenous Media

3. A workshop on indigenous media was held in New York from 11 to 14 December 2000, organized by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in cooperation with the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat. The aim was to bring together representatives of indigenous media and the mainstream press as well as representatives of United Nations agencies and other relevant institutions and organizations to follow up on the first Workshop on Indigenous Media, held in Madrid from 26 to 28 January 1998, and to elaborate a programme of activities for the strengthening of indigenous media during the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People and beyond. The report of the Workshop is contained in document E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.4/2001/3.

4. The Workshop underlined the importance of indigenous media as an indispensable tool to promote indigenous identity, language, culture, self-representation, and collective and human rights, and as a vehicle for communicating international, regional and national issues to indigenous communities as well as conveying community concerns to a wider public. The Workshop recognized the urgent need to strengthen the indigenous media. It also recommended that the United Nations establish a web page on indigenous peoples with links to all United Nations agencies and regional and intergovernmental organizations in order to facilitate indigenous peoples' participation in international activities. The Workshop also recommended that indigenous journalists and media be invited to attend the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, to be held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 7 September 2001, and file stories.

5. In the light of the recommendations of the second Workshop on Indigenous Media, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights will organize an indigenous media panel, which will focus on the role of media in combating discrimination against indigenous peoples, at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance. The Panel will examine the representation of indigenous peoples in the media and strategies for improvements. It will also provide an opportunity for indigenous media to consider how they can contribute to the implementation of the plan of action of the World Conference.

Workshop on Multiculturalism in Africa: Peaceful and constructive group accommodation in situations involving minorities and indigenous peoples

6. The second Workshop on Multiculturalism in Africa was held at Kidal, Mali from 8 to 13 January 2001. It was organized by the Agency for Cooperation and Research in Development (ACORD), based in Kidal, and the Chairpersons of the United Nations Working Group on Minorities and the Working Group on Indigenous Populations in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Development Programme's office in Bamako. The Workshop recognized the complexity of the concept of indigenous peoples and minorities in Africa and encouraged further dialogue among the different peoples of the Continent on the issue. The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights was encouraged to organize further workshops and seminars on multiculturalism, indigenous peoples and minorities in other regions of Africa. The establishment by the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights of a working group on

indigenous peoples/communities was noted and participants recommended that the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights strengthen its ties with the Commission, in particular in connection with the new working group. The report of the second Workshop is contained in document E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.5/2001/3.

Commission on Human Rights

7. The Commission on Human Rights held its fifty-seventh session from 19 March to 27 April 2001. The Commission considered the report of the Working Group on a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous people and the report on the activities undertaken within the framework of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (E/CN.4/2001/84). The Commission on Human Rights adopted a resolution on the Working Group on the draft declaration (resolution 2001/58) and a further resolution on the Working Group on Indigenous Populations and the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (resolution 2001/59), both of 24 April 2001. The Commission also decided to appoint, for a three-year period, a special rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people (resolution 2001/57 of 24 April 2001). The Special Rapporteur will have the following functions: (a) to gather, request, receive and exchange information and communications from all relevant sources, including Governments, indigenous people themselves and their communities and organizations, on violations of their human rights and fundamental freedoms; (b) to formulate recommendations and proposals on appropriate measures and activities to prevent and remedy violations of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people; and (c) to work in close relation with other special rapporteurs, special representatives, working groups and independent experts of the Commission on Human Rights and of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, taking into account the request of the Commission contained in resolution 1993/30 of 5 March 1993. The Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights subsequently appointed Mr. Rodolfo Stavenhagen (Mexico) as Special Rapporteur.

Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

8. The Economic and Social Council, by resolution 2000/22 of 28 July 2000, decided to establish the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues as an advisory body with a mandate to discuss indigenous issues within the mandate of the Council relating to economic and social development, culture, the environment, education, health and human rights. In accordance with that resolution, the Permanent Forum will be composed of 16 members, eight to be nominated by Governments and elected by the Council and eight to be appointed by the President of the Council on the basis of consultations. The Forum will report to the Council. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as the lead agency for the implementation of the Council's resolution, has held a number of meetings, both formal and informal, with indigenous peoples, Governments and United Nations agencies. Focal points in the specialized agencies have been identified and an inter-agency contact group has been formed in order to draw on existing expertise within the United Nations system in the preparations for the first session.

Working Group on Indigenous Populations

9. The principal theme of the nineteenth session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (23-27 July 2001) is "Indigenous peoples and their right to development, including their right to participate in development affecting them". The agenda also includes the following items: review of developments, including land issues, education and health; standard-setting activities, including a review of indigenous peoples' relationship with natural resource, energy and mining companies; the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance; and the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People. Numerous briefing meetings have been scheduled, including by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Labour Organization (ILO). Approximately 1,000 participants are expected to attend.

Indigenous Fellowship Programme

10. The Indigenous Fellowship Programme was established in 1997, and since that time four indigenous persons have spent six months each year in the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on a training course on human rights, which also includes training modules in many of the United Nations agencies, such as ILO, WHO, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and also at several non-governmental organizations. The Programme gives indigenous individuals the opportunity to gain experience in human rights and the United Nations system and to serve as resource persons in their communities when they return. This year, the Programme has increased from four to five fellows, albeit for a reduced period of five months. These indigenous fellows are: Ms. Vonda Moar (Australia), Ms. Mama Rampadi (Botswana), Ms. Mirian Masaquiza (Ecuador), Mr. Fritz Pieter (Namibia), and Mr. Piya Sansee (Thailand).

11. The Indigenous Fellowship Programme was expanded, in collaboration with the Institute of Human Rights of the University of Deusto at Bilbao, Spain, which provided formal human rights training to indigenous fellows from Latin America: Mr. Santiago Manuin (Peru), Ms. Alicia Tsukanka (Ecuador), Ms. Eva Tranamil (Chile), Mr. Luis Arturo Xep (Guatemala) and Mr. Santiago Flores (Honduras). The fellows also spend approximately two months at the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, gaining practical experience. The Programme is extremely well received by indigenous peoples and the number of applicants far exceeds the number of places available.

Technical Cooperation Programme

12. There is increasing cooperation to integrate indigenous issues into the technical cooperation programmes administered by the Office of the High Commissioner. At present, technical cooperation projects in Bolivia, Ecuador and Guatemala include specific activities that benefit indigenous people. These activities consist of training representatives of indigenous peoples' organizations and strengthening the capacity of State institutions responsible for the protection of human rights with a specific mandate for indigenous peoples. The Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation and the Voluntary Fund for the International Decade of

the World's Indigenous People are jointly funding a seminar on human rights for indigenous peoples in Mexico that will take place from 13 to 17 August 2001.

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations

13. The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations was established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 40/131 of 13 December 1985 to assist representatives of indigenous communities and organizations to participate in the deliberations of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights by providing them with financial assistance. The General Assembly broadened the mandate of the Voluntary Fund in its resolution 50/156 of 21 December 1995 by deciding that the Fund should also be used to assist representatives of indigenous communities and organizations to participate in the deliberations of the open-ended inter-sessional Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights on the draft United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous people.

14. The Fund is administered by the Secretary-General, assisted by a Board of Trustees, through the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations relating to trust funds for humanitarian assistance. The biennial report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Fund and activities undertaken with the resources of the Fund was submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session (A/55/202). Updated information is available in the last report on the Decade to the Commission on Human Rights (E/CN.4/2001/84, paras. 21-27) and in the note by the Secretariat on the Fund submitted to the Working Group on Indigenous Populations (E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.4/2001/4). Information on the Fund is also available on the web site of the High Commissioner: www.ohchr.ch under "Fundraising/Funds". Additional information can be obtained from the Fund's secretariat at the Trust Funds Unit, Support Services Branch, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

15. At its fourteenth session, held at Geneva from 28 to 30 March and on 2 April 2001, the Board of Trustees considered 225 applications for grants to enable indigenous representatives to attend the nineteenth session of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations (23-27 July 2001) and 32 applications to attend the seventh session of the Working Group of the Commission on Human Rights (October/November 2001). In the light of the selection criteria, the Board recommended 79 travel grants to attend the session of the first Working Group, for a total amount of about US\$ 321,700, and 23 travel grants to attend the second one, for a total amount of about US\$ 110,200 (cf. list of beneficiaries in document E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.4/2001/4). It also recommended about US\$ 38,000 for grants to allow representatives of indigenous organizations and communities to attend, as observers, a possible meeting of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in the first months of 2002 before the next session of the Board, in case of the adoption of a resolution by the General Assembly which could further extend the mandate of the Fund.¹

16. At its annual meeting with donor Governments on 30 March 2001 in Geneva, the Board of Trustees expressed its gratitude for the donors' generous contributions, recommended a sustained effort and, if possible, an increase in their contributions. The Board was encouraged by even symbolic contributions as an expression of

interest in the participation of indigenous populations. The Board invited Governments to continue to meet with it during its annual session to discuss issues of mutual concern. The Board urged donors that have pledged a contribution to pay it as soon as possible.² The Board also expressed concern about the decrease in the number of donors and contributions received and urged new donors to contribute so that the donor's base could be increased.

Table 1

Contributions available at the fourteenth session of the Board in March 2001*

<i>Country</i>	<i>Amount (US dollars)</i>	<i>Paid on</i>
Cyprus	2 996	29.12.2000
Denmark	40 000	26.03.2001
Estonia	17 760	02.01.2001
Greece	6 000	19.12.2000
Holy See	1 000	26.12.2000
Netherlands	29 489	26.09.2000
Norway	55 163	28.03.2001
Switzerland	22 727	27.11.2000

* According to official receipt vouchers available at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Table 2

**Contributions available for the fifteenth session in March 2002*
(as at 30 June 2001)**

<i>Country</i>	<i>Amount (US dollars)</i>	<i>Paid on</i>
Canada	9 530	06.04.2001
Chile	5 000	24.04.2000
Finland	33 996	20.04.2001

* According to official receipt vouchers available at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Table 3

Pledges made as at 30 June 2001

<i>Country</i>	<i>Amount (US dollars)</i>	<i>Pledged in</i>	<i>Pledged on</i>
Bolivia	1 000	New York	2-3.11.1999 ^a
Chile	5 000	New York	1-2.11.2000 ^b

^a Pledge made at the 1999 United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities.

^b Pledge made at the 2000 United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities.

17. The Fund receives contributions from Governments, non-governmental organizations and other private or public entities. The Commission on Human Rights, in paragraph 7 of its resolution 2001/59 of 24 April 2001, and the General Assembly, in paragraph 6 (e) of its resolution 55/80, appealed to all Governments, organizations and individuals in a position to do so to support the International Decade by contributing to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations, together with other donors, in order to assist indigenous representatives in participating in the above-mentioned Working Groups in 2002.

18. Interested donors are invited to pay their contributions before the next session of the Advisory Group (April 2002) in order to enable the Fund and its Board of Trustees to fulfil their mandate. Voluntary contributions can be made by bank transfer to the "United Nations Geneva General Fund" in US dollars to account 240-C-590-160.1 or in other currencies to account 240-C-590-160.0 c/o UBS AG, P.O. Box 2770, CH-1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland, Swift address UBSWCHZH12A. Contributions can also be paid by cheque to the order of the "United Nations" and sent to The Treasurer, United Nations Office at Geneva, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland. Donors should mention, in any case, "For the Fund for Indigenous Populations, account IH".

United Nations Trust Fund for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

19. In accordance with General Assembly resolutions 48/163, 49/214 and 50/157, the purpose of the Trust Fund for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People is to finance projects and programmes during the Decade. The Fund receives contributions from Governments, non-governmental organizations and other private or public entities. In conformity with paragraph 23 of the annex to resolution 50/157, an Advisory Group was established to assist the Coordinator of the Fund. The current Advisory Group is composed of the members of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations (see A/55/202, para. 4), who are all indigenous experts, the Chairperson-Rapporteur of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations and another United Nations expert who is specialized in project and programme management and appointed by the High Commissioner for Human Rights in her capacity as Coordinator of the Decade. The last reports by the secretariat on the Fund are contained in documents E/CN.4/2001/84 and E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.4/2001/5. Information on the Fund is also available on the web site of the High Commissioner: www.ohchr.ch under "Fundraising/Funds". Additional information can be obtained from the secretariat of the Fund at the Trust Funds Unit, Support Services Branch, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Geneva.

20. At its sixth session, from 2 to 5 April 2001, the Advisory Group examined 60 applications for project grants. Thanks to the contributions made by new donors and the sustained contributions from regular donors, sufficient funds were available for 2001 to implement all envisaged activities (see table 1). The Advisory Group recommended grants to 30 indigenous projects, amounting to a total of US\$ 252,606, which were approved by the High Commissioner for Human Rights on behalf of the Secretary-General (for the list of projects, see E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.4/2001/5, annex III). Sufficient funding was also available for the organization of a workshop on indigenous peoples, private sector, natural resource, energy and mining companies and human rights, a round table on indigenous

peoples, racism and the media, to be held as a parallel activity to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, a training seminar on human rights for indigenous people, to be held in Mexico, and a pilot training course on human rights for indigenous communities.

21. The following voluntary contributions were paid from 1 July 2000³ to 30 June 2001:⁴

Table 4
Contributions paid from 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001*

<i>Donors</i>	<i>Amount (US dollars)</i>	<i>Payment registered on</i>	<i>Payment received in</i>	<i>Number of contribution</i>
Canada	9 530	06.04.2001	Geneva	5th
Chile	5 000	24.04.2000 ^a	Geneva	1st
Colombia	1 000	29.12.2000	New York	1st
Cyprus	2 996	29.12.2000	Geneva	4th
Denmark	119 127	27.03.2001	Geneva	5th
Estonia	17 760	02.01.2001	Geneva	3rd
Germany	21 599	07.12.2000	Geneva	2nd
Greece	3 000	09.02.2001	Geneva	5th
Netherlands	98 366	12.01.2001	New York	1st
Norway	53 631	30.11.2000	Geneva	4th
	55 163	28.03.2001	Geneva	5th

* According to official receipts available at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

^a The official receipt of the Treasurer of the United Nations, dated 24 April 2000, was only received at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights after the sixth session and will therefore be taken into consideration at the seventh session of the Advisory Group.

22. The following pledges remained outstanding as at 30 June 2001:

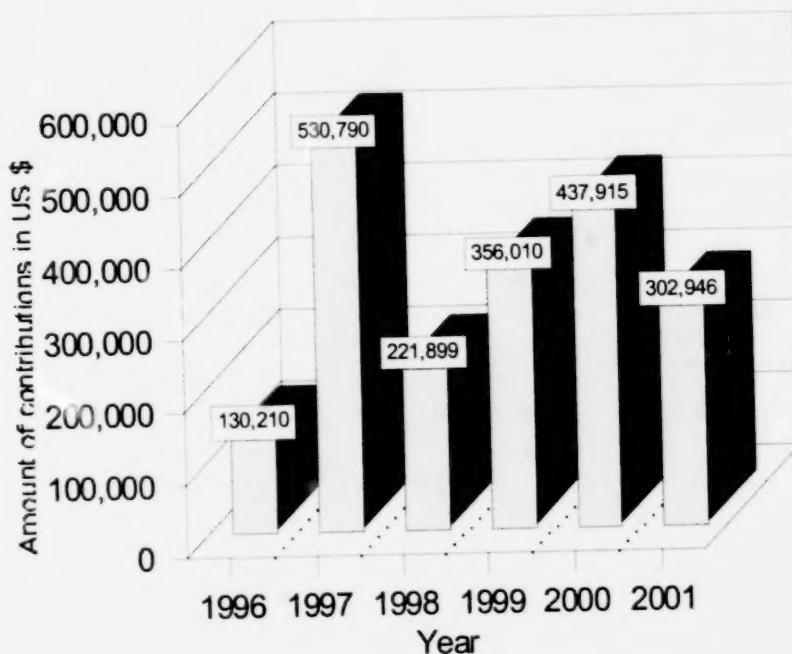
Table 5
Outstanding pledges as at 30 June 2001

<i>Donor</i>	<i>Amount (US dollars)</i>	<i>Date pledged</i>	<i>Pledged on</i>
Chile	10 000	Geneva	12.06.2001
Tunisia	951	New York	4-5.11.1998 ^a
Movement for Defence of Democracy (Ghana)	200	Geneva	06.10.2000

^a Pledge made at the 1998 United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities.

23. The following chart shows the development of contributions to the Fund from 1996 to June 2001:

Table 6
Contributions made from 1996 to June 2001*



* According to official receipts available at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

24. The cost plan for 2002 envisages that US\$ 400,000 will be needed for project grants to indigenous organizations and communities, as well as workshops and seminars on indigenous issues. The Commission on Human Rights, in paragraph 15 of its resolution 2001/59 of 24 April 2001, and the General Assembly, in paragraph 6 (d) of its resolution 55/80, appealed to all Governments, organizations and individuals in a position to do so to contribute to the Fund. Interested donors are invited to pay their contributions before the next session of the Advisory Group (April 2002) in order to enable the Fund, the Advisory Group and the Coordinator of the Decade to fulfil their mandate. Voluntary contributions can be made by bank transfer to the "United Nations Geneva General Fund" in United States dollars to account 240-C-590-160.1 or in other currencies to account 240-C-590-160.0 c/o UBS AG, P.O. Box 2770, CH-1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland, Swift address UBSWCHZH12A. Contributions can also be paid by cheque to the order of the "United Nations" and sent to The Treasurer, United Nations Office at Geneva, Palais des Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland. Donors should mention, in any case, "For the Fund for Indigenous People Decade, account IV".

Inter-agency consultation

25. An inter-agency consultation on indigenous peoples has been organized by either ILO or the Office of the High Commissioner for the past 10 years and provides an opportunity for an informal exchange of information between the staff working on indigenous or related issues. It has proved to be helpful in strengthening cooperation at the working level within United Nations organizations. The next consultation, on 20 July 2001, will focus on inter-agency cooperation in the preparations for the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

Notes

¹ The General Assembly had extended the mandate of the Fund by resolution 53/130 of 9 December 1998 by deciding that the Fund should also be used to assist representatives of indigenous communities and organizations to participate in the deliberations of the open-ended inter-sessional ad hoc Working Group on a permanent forum for indigenous people of the Commission on Human Rights established by the Commission in its resolution 1998/20, as endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 1998/247 of 30 July 1998.

² The contributions by Chile and Finland were recorded by the Treasurer of the United Nations shortly after the session.

³ Cf. the chart showing contributions to the Fund up to 30 June 2000 (A/55/268, para. 17).

⁴ Date of drafting of the present report.
